

PATRIOTIC FRONT

MANIFESTO



**RESTORATION OF HUMAN DIGNITY THROUGH SOCIAL
AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT BASED ON OBSERVANCE
OF HUMAN RIGHTS AND RULE OF LAW**

**PATRIOTIC FRONT
FOR
LOW TAXES**

**LOCAL AND FOREIGN INVESTMENT
AND
EMPLOYMENT CREATION**

**FOR
MORE MONEY IN POCKETS OF INDIVIDUALS AND FAMILIES
AND BETTER LIVES FOR ALL**

VOTE FOR PATRIOTIC FRONT

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ZAMBIA: THE BACKGROUND

Zambia is a landlocked country covering an area of 752,612 square kilometres (about 2.5% of Africa). It shares borders with the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC) and Tanzania to the north, Malawi and Mozambique to the east, Zimbabwe and Botswana to the south, Namibia to the southwest, and Angola to the west. Administratively, the country is divided into nine provinces and 72 districts. Of the nine provinces, two are predominantly urban - Lusaka and the Copperbelt. The remaining provinces - Central, Eastern, Luapula, Northern, North Western, Southern and Western - are predominantly rural.

The country is situated on the great plateau of south central Africa. Its vegetation is mainly savannah woodlands and grassland. The country has a pleasant sub - tropical climate with three distinct seasons: the cool and dry season, the hot and dry season, and the hot and wet season.

The country is well endowed with natural resources. It has five main rivers: the Zambezi, Kafue, Luangwa, Luapula, and Chambeshi. In addition, the country also has the lakes Tanganyika, Mweru, Mweru Wa Ntipa, Bangweulu, and the manmade lakes Kariba and Itzhi-tezhi. Other interesting features include the Victoria Falls on the Zambezi river bordering Zimbabwe.

Prior to independence on October 24, 1964, Zambia was known as Northern Rhodesia. In the late nineteenth century, various parts of what was to become Northern Rhodesia were administered by the British South Africa Company. In 1924, the British Colonial Office assumed responsibility for administering the territory. In 1953, Northern Rhodesia joined the Federation of Rhodesia and Nyasaland which was dissolved in 1963. British colonial rule was characterised by a general neglect of the needs and aspirations of the population. After attaining independence, the first Zambian government found itself with considerable financial resources at its disposal, largely derived from copper mining. The government embarked on a major programme of developing the social, physical and economic infrastructure of the country. Education was made compulsory and health services were provided free of charge.

Zambia's economy consists of a modern urban-oriented sector and a rural agricultural sector. For many years, the modern sector had been dominated by parastatal organisations, while private businesses predominated in the construction and agricultural sectors. Since 1991, with the introduction of a liberalised market-oriented economy, most parastatals have been privatised and, in some cases, liquidated.

Copper mining is still the country's main economic activity, accounting for 95% of export earnings and contributing 45% of government revenue

during the decade following the attainment of political independence (1965-1975). In the mid-1970s, following a sharp decline in copper prices and a sharp increase in oil prices, the country's economy started to deteriorate. Attempts were made to minimise dependency on copper exports by diversifying the economy through the creation of import substitution parastatals. This effort did not achieve the desired results.

Despite being abundantly endowed with natural resources, Zambia has undergone traumatic experiences in its economic life over the last twenty years. This has resulted in a number of policy experiments meant to lift the country from its economic quagmire. One of these policy experiments, as the economy reached stagnation, was the Structural Adjustment Programme (SAP) which was initiated in the 1980s. The SAP, however, failed to alter the economy structurally and exacerbated poverty among the majority of Zambians. Currently, around 80% of Zambians are classified as poor. Poverty is more prevalent in rural areas compared to urban areas (83% and 56%, respectively).

In the 1990s and the early part of this century, other attempts at economic resuscitation were attempted. In 1991, the new Government launched an Economic Recovery Programme (ERP) aimed at reversing the protracted decline in the economy by stimulating sustained positive growth, improved living standards, and quality of life. In 2001, the government initiated the development and implementation of a broad-based Poverty Reduction Strategy Paper (PRSP) aimed at reducing poverty and improving living conditions of the people.

Unfortunately all efforts to revive the economy have at best resulted only in cosmetic changes. To date, all human development indicators – per capita, income, life expectancy, infant mortality, literacy, etc – reveal a bleak picture for the country's future, making the prospect of achieving the Millennium Development Goals (MDGS) a daunting, if not impossible task. Whilst realizing the enormity of the problems facing our country, the PF remains undaunted in its determination to turn the situation around for the people of Zambia. To this end, the PF intends to usher in dramatic changes that will radically transform this country into a model for the rest of the African continent to emulate.

This manifesto represents the future of Zambia as we project it under a PF government.

2006 PATRIOTIC FRONT MANIFESTO

FOREWORD BY THE PRESIDENT

The 2006 elections give us an opportunity to make right all that went wrong before the 2001 elections and indeed all that has since gone wrong since the fraudulent 2001 elections, which produced a government with a highly questionable mandate. He has since imposed himself on our people and our state institutions, but without any regard for the views, suffering and plight of our people.

The MMD regime has ignored and rejected the need to address all the important issues that have required serious attention since the 2001 elections. Calls for a new Republican Constitution that reflects the will of the people, and which could stand the test of time, being enacted before the 2006 elections, for example, have fallen on a deaf Republican President. The MMD regime has thrived on nepotism. All the key positions in state institutions have been filled with relatives and friends, and without any regard to their abilities and capacities to serve the people of Zambia efficiently.

Our fragile, but promising economy has also been mismanaged through the wilful mismanagement of the exchange rate, imposition of punitive and exploitative taxes, and failure to provide critical essential infrastructure and services. As a result, poverty has become entrenched and endemic among our people, especially among those without access to jobs and essential infrastructure and service, both in urban and rural areas.

Individuals and our struggling industries are also inconvenienced on a daily basis by poor management of the energy sector, which has resulted in constant, but unpredictable load shedding and the ever recurring, but crippling shortages of petroleum products, as well as loss of jobs. As a result, the much sought after jobs by our people have been sacrificed, so that MMD regime could claim some dubious and illusory economic achievement in the name of a meaningless strong Kwacha.

The main beneficiaries of the MMD regime, apart from relatives and friends, are mostly foreigners. Those who have put themselves at the service of a regime, whose leaders seem to have no conscience, because they have not been moved by the plight and suffering of the Zambian workers, who have been reduced to daily casual employees in their own land, while foreign firms and consultants feast on their sweat and diminishing natural resources.

Fellow countrymen and women, we can put all the evils and suffering we have experienced under the MMD regime to an end. We have an opportunity to free ourselves from misrule, humiliation and abuse by an incompetent regime. The Patriotic Front has listened to the cries of the least among us. It is for this reason that we refused to walk away from the challenge of providing leadership to our people. We have been resolute and steadfast. We cannot walk away when our country is bleeding, for lack of care and leadership, when our people are crying out, for one of their own to lead them and speak out for them.

The good lord has been gracious too. He has protected us from all evil and enabled us to survive unimaginable humiliation and harassment. God has given us the strength to offer ourselves to our people, so that we can be of service to them. In this manifesto, fellow countrymen and women, you will find our diagnosis and solutions to the challenges that face our country today. Among the challenges is the need to restore human dignity, to place respect of human rights at the fore of all our policies and programmes. We have, therefore, developed policies and programmes designed to restore human dignity through employment creation and provision of essential infrastructure and services.

Give us the mandate to preside over the affairs of our country. We shall deal with its problems squarely and with due diligence. We shall not waste a second on fruitless vengeance, as has been the custom. For us, vengeance is for God. We are ready to serve our people and our country with diligence and zeal. We shall reduce taxes to resuscitate our economy, manage the exchange rate responsibly and with employment creation and growing our economy in mind. Our economic policies will create jobs and allow individuals and families to rebuild their lives and dignity.

My fellow citizens, we can create a new social order in our land. Zambians can again have a future to look forward to. We can have a new country in which people look out and support one another. Give us your vote, and we shall change Zambia for the better. We have a competent team to manage the affairs of our country. Our candidates in the elections will be selected by the local people in all the wards and constituencies throughout Zambia.

Our season of service is nigh and we look forward to being of service to you all.

Michael C. Sata
PRESIDENT

1. LEGAL AND CONSTITUTIONAL REFORMS

The PF recognizes that the rule of law, social justice and an efficient justice delivery system are critical to sustainable social and economic development. In Zambia today, however, the very institutions that ought to uphold the rule of law and social justice have been the principal violators of human rights, the rule of law and social justice. The justice system is also slow, expensive and cumbersome. The PF led government will therefore initiate reforms aimed at upholding human rights, consolidating the rule of law and social justice, as well as ensuring that the delivery of justice is not only faster, but also efficient, and less cumbersome. To achieve these principles, the PF government will carry out the following reforms and measures:

- Facilitate adoption and enactment of the Mung'omba Draft Constitution through a Constituent Assembly
- Establish additional specialised courts, especially the constitutional court (through an appropriate constitutional amendment).
- Separate the offices of Attorney-General and Minister of Justice
- Establish an Office of District Attorney in every District
- Establish an office of Public Defender in every District in place of the current legal aid scheme (is this like an ombudsman?)
- Deploy government sponsored law graduates to public legal institutions, such as the magistrates courts, Attorney-General's and DPP's chambers, as well as the chambers of the Public Defender
- Establish Permanent/Resident High Courts at all Provincial Headquarters
- Establish Resident Magistrate Courts at all District Headquarters
- Upgrade Lay Magistrates to professional magistrates through in-service training.
- Improve conditions of service for personnel in public legal

institutions by matching those in the private sector.

- Construct additional infrastructure, especially Court Rooms at District, Provincial and National levels.

2. CABINET

Although the composition of government can vary, both in the number of ministers and the titles of offices, the PF government will aim to make the number of offices a constitutional matter or restrict the ability of successive governments to create offices at the expense of tax payers, as and when they please. The PF cabinet will thus be leaner.

2.1. CONDITIONS OF SERVICE OF MEMBERS OF CABINET

The PF will aim give realistic condition of service to the members of the cabinet that will guarantee them the necessary comfort without being a drain on the national treasury. As a reciprocal measure, members of cabinet will have to demonstrate their commitment to national life by using local services and facilities such as state hospitals and schools rather than private institutions abroad.

3. HOME AFFAIRS

The PF government will revamp the existing departments that fall under the portfolio of Home Affairs in order to improve efficiency.

3.1 THE POLICE SERVICE

Under the PF government Police Officers as guarantors of peace and order will not carry out the prosecutorial function.

3.1.1 HOUSING

The PF has recognized that the colonial system of segregating the police officers from the community has resulted in them developing cultures and attitudes, norms and conduct that are inimical to the promotion of the public good and interest. To this end, the PF government will:

- Sell all houses occupied by the police to sitting tenants. Those who will not benefit from the sale of houses will be afforded access to mortgages or loans to build or buy houses, with government acting as guarantor.

3.1.2 TRAINING

The Police service under the PF government will be re-oriented to place emphasis on community policing.

- The PF government will improve the current curriculum in police training colleges to enhance professionalism within their ranks, anchored in the rule of law and respect for human rights.
- Serving police officers will be provided with opportunities to upgrade their skills through further training.
- The PF government will rehabilitate the existing training colleges at Lilayi and Kamfinsa and construct new ones.
- The PF government will upgrade the current certificate in police training by introducing diploma and degree courses in police training in collaboration with local universities.

3.1.3. CONDITIONS OF SERVICE

- To motivate the police service and reduce their susceptibility to corruption, conditions of service will be improved to match those of other civil servants with equivalent qualifications.

3.2 IMMIGRATION

3.2.1 POLICY

- The PF government will put in place appropriate measures to attract non – Zambians with exceptional skills or resources to invest in areas relevant to, and of benefit to the country.
- The PF government will establish a one-stop centre for the issuance of entry permits, resident permits and work permits so as to make the process more efficient.
- Remove discrimination of foreign husbands of Zambian women in matters relating to residing and working in Zambia

3.2.2 CONDITIONS OF SERVICE, TRAINING AND HOUSING FOR IMMIGRATION OFFICERS AND OTHER CIVIL SERVANTS

- The same measures that have been outlined for the police service and other officers in the civil service will apply.

3.3 NATIONAL REGISTRATION

3.3.1. POLICY

- The PF government will streamline and decentralize the issuance of National Registration Cards in order to make the system functional and accessible through the establishment of a computerized network linking all districts.
- The PF government will streamline and decentralize the registration of vital statistics such as births, deaths and marriages in order to make the system functional and accessible through the establishment of a computerized network linking all districts.

3.4. THE DRUG ENFORCEMENT COMMISSION AND ANTI-CORRUPTION COMMISSION

- Watchdog institutions will not fall under the Ministry of Home Affairs but instead there shall be an autonomous board reporting to Parliament. To this end the PF government will enact enabling legislation to provide for the appointment of the members of the Board.
- The above institutions shall have power to investigate, arrest, and prosecute without reference to any other authority.

The PF government will strengthen existing institutions with legal framework and desist from creating ad hoc bodies.

4. CORRECTIONAL SERVICES (PRISON SERVICES)

The PF government will establish a line ministry responsible for the portfolio of correctional services.

4.1 REFORM AND REHABILITATION OF INMATES

The existing prisons services places emphasis on punishment rather than reform and rehabilitation. Inmates are living under congested and inhuman conditions. The PF government will improve the correctional services by:

- Building new correctional facilities to eliminate congestion and other inhuman conditions.
- Reforming the penal system by introducing community service for minor offences.
- Rehabilitating inmates through provision of survival skills and basic literacy for use after serving sentence.

4.2 CORRECTIONAL OFFICERS (PRISON OFFICERS)

4.2.1 TRAINING

- The PF government will improve the current curriculum in correctional training facilities to enhance professionalism, anchored on the rule of law and respect for human rights.
- Serving correctional officers will be provided with opportunities to upgrade their skills through further training.
- The PF government will rehabilitate the existing training facilities and construct additional ones.
- The PF government will upgrade the current correctional training by introducing diploma and degree courses for correctional officers' training in collaboration with local universities.

4.2.2 HOUSING

- The PF government will do away with institutional houses and officers will be free to live in residential areas of their choice.
- Where appropriate, institutional houses will be sold and officers who will not benefit will be afforded access to mortgages or loans to build or buy houses with government acting as guarantor of the loans.

4.2.3 CONDITIONS OF SERVICE

- To motivate the correctional officers, conditions of service will be improved to match those of other civil servants with equivalent qualifications.

5. EDUCATION

INTRODUCTION

Taking cognisance of the key role education plays in national development, the PF government will improve both access to and the quality of education at all levels.

5.1 PRIMARY AND SECONDARY EDUCATION

The current educational system is characterized by a gross enrolment level of only 79% at basic education and 14 % at secondary school. Only 77% of the children who are enrolled at grade 1 reach grade 5. This figure is much more pronounced in rural areas especially among the girl children. This problem is compounded by a low progression rate to grade 8 of only 48%, while that of grade 9 to grade 10 is a paltry 25%!

Some of the causes for this state of affairs include inadequate and/or dilapidated infrastructure, a critical shortage of teaching staff, demotivated teachers, poverty that has given rise to negative practices and inadequate learning materials.

In addition, the standards of education have fallen because of an inappropriate curriculum which does not adequately equip the pupils with life long skills to enable them cope with the demands of the labour market.

In terms of quality of education, the present experiment with the so-called basic education has been grossly unsatisfactory.

To address problems of limited access, poor quality and inappropriate curriculum, the PF government will carry out the measures listed below:

- Increase expenditure on education to cater for the planned expansion and up-grading of infrastructure and teaching resources.
- Phase out basic education within the first three years in office and re-introduce a distinct primary, secondary and tertiary education system.

- Revise the curriculum to include practical subjects.
- Re-introduce free and compulsory primary education for all (that is from grade one to grade seven).
- Make it an offence for a parent who deliberately fails to send a child of school going age to school.
- Phase-out District Education Boards and replace them with Local Education Authorities.
- Enhance professionalism in the education system by providing distinct teacher training programmes at diploma and degree level for both primary and secondary school sectors.
- Upgrade non-degree or diploma holders through in-service training.
- Sponsor teachers to in-service training programmes.
- Deploy all trained teachers willing to teach and ensure that any teachers trained in the future are deployed upon completion of training.
- Rehabilitate the existing infrastructure and construct at least one secondary school in every district to increase places at the secondary school level.
- Upgrade all primary schools providing grades 1 to 4 to full primary schools and construct additional primary schools based on need, especially in the peri-urban and rural areas.
- Rehabilitate existing houses and construct decent institutional houses for teachers in rural schools.
- Rehabilitate existing sports facilities and construct new ones in all schools and make physical education a compulsory component of the curriculum.
- Ensure that all institutions of learning have facilities and infrastructure for differently - abled students.

5.1.1 CONDITIONS OF SERVICE OF TEACHERS

- The PF will ensure that the emoluments of teachers are attractive so as to retain and stem the brain drain.

- Teachers in rural areas will receive increased hardship and other allowances on time.
- Teachers will be afforded access to mortgages or loans to build or buy houses with government acting as guarantor of the loans.

5.2 PRIVATE AND GRANT-AIDED EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTIONS

The PF recognises the important and complementary role played by private, church and grant-aided institutions in providing education to the Zambian people. To this end the PF government will:

- Support private initiative in the provision of quality education.
- Encourage churches/missions to establish more learning institutions.
- Upgrade community schools to fully fledged primary and secondary schools. Untrained teachers will be upgraded through in-service training.

The role of government will be to monitor the quality of education standards in both government and private schools through a professional inspectorate.

5.3 TERTIARY EDUCATION

PF recognises that there is no better indication of Zambia's economic backwardness than the rudimentary state of higher education, research, science and technology in the country. The existing facilities and funding are grossly inadequate. To address this problem the PF government will:

- Promote demand rather than supply driven tertiary education in technical fields.
- Rehabilitate existing trades training institutes and construct more institutes in every province in partnership with NGOs, the church and individuals.
- Build at least two national institutes of science and technology.
- Embark on a comprehensive program of re-development of tertiary education at college and university levels in partnership with the private sector.

- Expand and improve all physical infrastructure at all institutions of learning to enable qualifying school leavers enter into tertiary institutions.
- Partner with the private sector in the construction and management of tertiary institutions.
- Partner with the private sector in the construction and management of tertiary education institutions.
- Encourage the private sector to give apprenticeships to students from institutions of learning.
- Encourage the development and reinforcement of linkages between institutions of higher learning and industry, especially in research and development.
- Prioritize competitive conditions of service for the professional and technical staff.
- Phase out the current bursary scheme and in its place develop guaranteed student loans for all Zambian students admitted into tertiary institutions and recover the loans through a tracking system.
- Encourage professional development of all workers by introducing in - service training.

5.4 UNIVERSITIES

Universities play a critical role in national development through research, consultancy and training. The number of existing universities is not adequate to cope with the increasing demand for university education and the few existing institutions are poorly funded, thus compounding the brain – drain, institutional instability, and student unrest. In this regard the PF government will review the current legislation on universities to:

- Promote academic freedom and autonomy of universities by ensuring, through the University Act, that the Ministry of Education ceases to be the appointing authority for the officers of the university such as the Vice and Deputy Vice Chancellors.
- Ensure that the appointment to the positions of Vice-Chancellor and Deputy Vice-Chancellor in every university are done democratically and meritocratically by a committee consisting of

stakeholders whose composition and terms of operation will be enshrined in the University Act.

- Provide for direct and adequate funding of public universities from the national treasury (i.e., to provide improved conditions of service for all workers and expanded student accommodation).
- Promote the establishment of more public and private universities.
- Create an independent regulatory body to register universities and enforce quality assurance standards.

6. LOCAL GOVERNMENT

6.1 POLICY

PF recognizes the disorganization in local government administration. The current local government system is besieged by many problems resulting from inadequate funding and political interference; this has negatively affected service delivery. As a key policy measure therefore, there will be greater emphasis on decentralization of power from the centre to local communities. In addressing this, the PF government will:

- Ensure that key decisions concerning service delivery and provision are handled locally. In addition to the public services provided by local authorities such as housing, fire services, sewage and water reticulation, local authorities will be mandated to extend their service provision to early childhood education and adult literacy, policing, and security.
- Streamline local government by abolishing the position of Provincial Deputy Minister and Permanent Secretary and replacing these with professionally qualified Provincial Commissioners and District Commissioners, etc.
- Transfer the distribution of electricity from ZESCO to local authorities.
- Transfer responsibility for land allocation from the Commissioner of Lands to the councils.

- Transfer control of wildlife and forest utilization to municipalities so that revenues generated from these activities go to their accounts.
- Transfer responsibility for public health, both of humans and animals, to municipalities.
- Transfer responsibility for awarding of contracts for the construction and periodic maintenance of roads, bridges, canals and other public works to the local municipality, whenever technically feasible.
- Ensure that Mayors and Chairpersons of District Councils are elected directly by the voters in that particular locality.

6.2 MUNICIPAL AND CITY COUNCILS

For large metropolitan centres like Lusaka, Kitwe, Ndola, etc., the PF government will:

- Introduce township management boards that will be responsible for the management, planning and collection of revenue at that level.
- Devise a formula for sharing taxes collected from within the jurisdiction of each local authority.

This arrangement will strengthen the revenue base of local authorities, particularly in large conurbations and towns like Lusaka, Ndola and Kitwe and improve the provision and maintenance of services. Such an arrangement will also ensure timely payment of wages and salaries to council workers, thus reducing the risk of labour unrest.

- Introduce the position of councillors nominated by professional bodies and associations in order to improve the quality of representation in councils.
- Ensure that councils are professionally run through the appointment of professionally qualified personnel, engaged on merit.

6.3 RURAL COUNCILS

In the rural areas, the PF government will:

- Introduce Local/Native Authority Management Boards under the supervision of chiefs.
- Devise a formula for sharing taxes collected from within the jurisdiction of each rural council.
- Enable the rural councils, through the Local/Native Authority Management Boards, to generate revenue for development of their areas through royalties and taxes from companies operating in their domains.
- Empower Local/Native Authority Management Boards to be responsible for running of schools and clinics within their boundaries.
- Identify areas of potential and comparative advantage and assist rural councils to develop their full potential and take advantage of the multiplier effects to develop these areas further.

6.3.1 THE ROLE OF TRADITIONAL AUTHORITIES

Under the current local government system, traditional authorities have had no role to play in the development of their areas. The PF recognizes the critical role that the traditional authorities can play in mobilizing their subjects for national development. The PF government will:

- Ensure that Chiefs have added functions to enable them participate effectively in the development process and provide leadership to their subjects.
- Ensure that Chiefs have adequate representation in councils in their respective districts.
- Ensure that Chiefs preside over the Local/Native Authority Management Boards.

6.4 PROVISION OF SERVICES

In terms of provision services, PF will:

- Encourage councils to partner with the private sector in the provision of services in the areas of waste management and general sanitation.
- Encourage councils to maintain all the roads in their localities to enhance mobility of people and produce, as well as ensuring the safety of their residents.
- Encourage councils to be responsible for the running early childhood education and evening education as well as provision of sports and recreational facilities through community welfare centres.

6.4.1 HOUSING DEVELOPMENT

In housing development, the PF government will:

- Embark on a comprehensive housing development programme which will result in the development new housing estates with all the necessary amenities and facilities in all towns and cities. These estates will provide low – cost and decent housing to our people who are currently resident in squatter settlements.

- Encourage councils to partner with the private sector to develop housing schemes which are both affordable and of high quality.
- Ensure systematic planning and development of towns and cities by strict adherence to existing and planned zoning regulations.

6.5 PARTICIPATION IN LOCAL GOVERNMENT

The PF government will be an all – encompassing one and will entitle all persons living in a particular neighbourhood, foreign or Zambian, as tax or rate payers, the right not only to vote but to also run for elective office within the district at both councillor and mayoral levels as they have a stake in the development of their areas.

7. AGRICULTURE AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT

Agriculture provides livelihood for more than 50 percent of Zambia’s population. The sector absorbs more than 67 percent of Zambia’s labour force that stands at 3.4 million. Thus agriculture still remains the main source of income and employment for the majority of Zambians, and in particular for rural women who constitute about 65 percent of the total rural population.

The PF recognizes the wide dimensions of agriculture to encompass agricultural elements such as food crops, cash crops, horticultural products, livestock production, poultry, aquaculture and game ranching. PF recognizes the fact that although the majority of Zambians are dependent on agriculture, the sector has remained underdeveloped at the smallholder level and many of the farmers have been completely marginalized. Over the last couple of years, Zambia has lost a colossal number of its livestock to various animal diseases including foot and mouth and corridor diseases; as a result, Zambia has been unable export meat products.

To this end, the PF government will:

- Ensure provision of good physical infrastructure both in the rural and urban areas to enable smooth delivery of inputs as well as marketing of agricultural products.
- Promote livestock, poultry and fish farming to the same prominence as crop farming.

- Recognize traditional land tenure systems in order to enable emerging farmers (especially women) use their land as collateral for purposes of raising loans through registration of individual parcels of land.
- Reorganize extension services and provide incentives to both extension officers and productive emerging farmers.
- Create an agricultural low interest credit facility for capital investment for emerging farmers.
- Develop a comprehensive agricultural information system to enable farmers make decisions relating to production and marketing.
- Give equal opportunities to both men and women to take up farming as an occupation.
- Develop capacity in bio-technology research in order to address the issue of genetically modified organisms (GMOs) adequately.
- Promote the use of alternative and environmentally friendly ways of farming such as organic farming for sustainable agriculture.
- Promote and support investment in irrigation, including appropriate tax incentives.
- Prioritize water resource management for long term sustainable use.
- Promote and support crop diversification such as cassava, millet, sorghum, including such cash crops as soya beans, tobacco, and cotton.
- Work with the private sector to ensure the availability of agricultural inputs throughout the year.
- Create an environment in which small scale farmers are protected from exploitation.

7.1 AGRICULTURAL MARKETING

The current marketing system of agricultural products grown by emerging farmers has been ineffective and unsatisfactory largely due to inadequate marketing policy and physical of infrastructure. To address this problem, the PF government will:

- Ensure provision of good physical infrastructure both in rural and urban areas to enable smooth delivery of inputs as well as marketing of agricultural products.
- Complement the private sector by being a guaranteed buyer of last resort especially from emerging farmers in rural areas.
- Provide incentives to the private sector to set up agro-processing industries.

7.2 NATIONAL FOOD SECURITY

To avoid food deficits in times of natural disasters, the PF government will:

- Establish and maintain a strategic reserve of food crops in each province.

8. COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT AND SOCIAL WELFARE

8.1 COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT AND SOCIAL WELFARE

Community development and social welfare programmes have traditionally sought to empower women with skills to manage and raise children, provide recreation and social support to vulnerable groups in communities. However, poor economic performance and long-term neglect of the sector have resulted in rising illiteracy rates, wide-spread unemployment, poor living conditions, malnutrition, destitution and crime. This situation has been compounded by inadequate budgetary allocations and uncoordinated management of the sector, which is evident from the separation of community development from public health. To address this situation, the PF government will:

- Strengthen Community Development and Social Welfare by merging community development with public health, maternal and child health, as well as traditional medicine.
- Provide social support to vulnerable groups, such as the physically and mentally challenged, orphans, the elderly, widows and persons living with HIV/AIDS.
- Provide a monthly social pension for all those aged 65 years and above.

- Increase budgetary allocation to the sector in line with its increased responsibilities.
- Rehabilitate and provide community development infrastructure, such as welfare centres, health centres, community libraries and recreation facilities.
- Deploy qualified staff and upgrade skills of existing staff through in-service training programmes.
- Re-introduce literacy and nutrition programmes.
- Support the participation of the church and non-governmental organisations in the provision of community development and social welfare services.
- Intensify public health education and mainstream HIV/AIDS awareness campaigns in early childhood education.
- Improve water supply and sanitation in peri-urban areas and rural communities.

8.2 EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION

The PF government recognises that in so far as early childhood education is concerned in this country, the pre-school services are only available to well-to-do families. In order to address this anomaly, the PF government will:

- Provide early childhood educational facilities and teachers in all primary schools.
- Introduce diploma and degree programmes in early childhood education in order to promote professionalism in this sector.
- Design a national early childhood education curriculum.
- Establish a directorate of early childhood education within the Ministry of Education.

9. ENERGY AND WATER DEVELOPMENT

PF recognizes the importance of energy and water in the development process of any country. The energy and water sectors are, however, among the most underdeveloped sectors of the economy in Zambia. Most households, for example, rely on wood fuel for their domestic energy needs, which unfortunately has had adverse effects on the environment. Electricity, mostly generated from hydro-power stations, is accessed by less than 10% of the households. To promote the development of the energy sector, the PF government will:

- Promote sustainable energy sources, such as hydro-power, solar, and wind energy.
- Reform the hydro energy sector by separating generation, transmission and distribution.
- Un-bundle ZESCO by hiving off the distribution function and taking that function to local authorities.
- Promote new investment in hydro-power generation, transmission and distribution.
- Promote use of hydro solar and bio-energy power for domestic purposes in rural and urban areas.
- Review regulation of the energy sector.
- Rehabilitate and expand the petroleum transmission and processing infrastructure.
- Promote maintenance of strategic fuel reserves.
- Promote improved management of watersheds in partnership with local communities and other relevant stakeholders.
- Promote sustainable water resource management.
- Review management of water rights to ensure equitable access by all competing needs.
- Promote development of the improved water supply and sanitation facilities in urban and rural settlements.
- Train and empower local communities to enable assist in the maintenance of water points and water sources.
- Rehabilitate and extend sewerage and drainage systems in order to contain environmental and water pollution.

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- Protect wetlands and other ecologically sensitive sites.
- Commission studies of potential dam sites on the numerous rivers in the country.
- Commission studies on surface and groundwater yields to ensure sustainable use and equitable access.

10. LAND

PF recognizes the critical role of land in social and economic development. It also recognizes the concentration of economic development along the old line of rail. This is a reflection of the dual land tenure system that separates land into statutory and traditional land. The dual land tenure system is compounded by the “perceived” lack of security under traditional tenure. Lack of transparency in the allocation of land has worsened; poor people who require land lack access to it. In addition, there is unnecessary bureaucracy and delays in the issuance of title deeds. To address these problems and accelerate social and economic development, the PF government will:

- Promote sustainable land use resources of Zambia for agricultural and resource management purposes by strengthening and clearly defining security of tenure over land resources including State Land, Reserves, Trust Land and protected areas in the process.
- Recognize traditional land tenure. In this regard, customary holdings, whose boundaries are at present kept verbally, will be mapped out by traditional authorities with the assistance of government surveyors and land use planners to record, register and secure existing land tenures, whilst at the same time planning for future development. These local registers will create an efficient system for emerging farmers to convert to leasehold as their needs for collateral security increases.
- Give high priority to empowering local authorities to enter into usufruct arrangements for conservation projects on common lands with a view to protecting land from wholesale alienation.
- Depoliticize and improve the land delivery system to ensure equitable access to land.
- Re-introduce freehold land tenure.
- Decentralize the issuance of title deeds to all provinces.

- Develop a practical land use policy and streamline land delivery system at the Ministry of Lands.
- Consolidate efficiency of agriculture by promoting conservation farming and increased security of land tenure on currently allocated land, rather than unnecessary expansion of virgin land.
- Closely coordinate land use, water, and natural resources policy and planning with agricultural policy and planning.

11. MINES AND MINERALS DEVELOPMENT

PF recognizes the critical role of mining and mineral development in the Zambian economy and regrets the neglect of minerals other than the base metals. PF also recognizes the absence of industries to convert the base metals into finished products. To address these problems, the PF government will:

- Renegotiate favourable terms with all investors in the mining sector to ensure that maximum benefits accrue to the Zambian people.
- Promote the exploitation of the non-traditional minerals, especially the phosphates, gemstones, and other precious stones.
- Promote the participation of indigenous Zambians in large-scale mining.
- Promote involvement of tertiary institutions in mines and mineral research.
- Review licensing and enforcement of mining safety regulation.
- Enhance the capacity of the Geological Survey Department to undertake geological mapping.
- Prepare and maintain a geological database including mineral occurrence maps.
- Partner with the private sector in the establishment of lapidaries and manufacturing industries in order to add value to minerals and gemstones.
- Accelerate the establishment of a gemstone exchange for the sale and marketing of gemstones.

- Promote the social welfare of the workforce on the mines by negotiating for better conditions of service for all mine workers in line with those that prevailed in the past, including free services such as free water, electricity, etc.

11.1 MINING, COMMERCIAL AND INDUSTRIAL IMPACTS

The PF is committed to ensuring that all mining, commercial and industrial activities are governed by minimal impact on, and proper management of, natural resources and adherence to pollution control measures in their operations.

The PF government will:

- Empower the Environmental Council of Zambia to carry out effective environment and resource controls.
- Provide incentives to encourage the adoption of environmentally friendly mining technologies incorporating energy saving, reduction of health hazards, pollution control and safe disposal of waste measures.
- Encourage the development of industrial technologies that do not pollute or irreparably damage the local environment and which maintain proper health and safety standards for workers.
- Adopt product quality and standards that conform to international environmental protection to enhance competitiveness.
- Ensure that environmental assessments incorporate mitigation strategies for social impacts and decommissioning plans.
- Strengthen the Mine Safety Department to carry out its statutory functions.
- Provide support for the Cleaner Production programme.

12. FINANCE

12.1 FINANCE AND PLANNING

The current arrangement where the portfolios of finance and national planning have been banded together has proved to be ineffective and counter productive to the intended activities of planning. To stimulate the national economy, the PF government will make the following changes:

- Separate the portfolio of finance from that of national planning
- Prioritize sectors such as health, education, agriculture, infrastructural development and prevention of crime.
- Maintain an open, liberal macro-economic environment.
- Establish a revolving fund to stimulate local investment.

12.2 TAXATION

The current tax regime is punitive, discriminatory and narrow. The PF government will put in place a progressive, non-punitive, and non-discriminatory tax regime that is fair and broad enough to optimise national revenue and encourage investments. The PF government will:

- Lower all taxes to levels similar to those obtaining in the Southern African region.
- Raise the current threshold from K320, 000 per month to K1, 000,000 per month so as to increase the disposable income for each taxpayer.
- Re-introduce child allowance to working parents in recognition of the high cost of bringing up children and in order to avail tax payers' meaningful tax relief.
- The PF government will not only use taxation as a revenue measure but also as a tool for stimulating investment and growth.
- PF in government will remove or zero-rate VAT on essential commodities and services such as food, transport, educational materials, and medicines.

12.2.1 BROADENING OF THE TAX BASE

- The PF recognizes that any reduction in the tax burden should not affect revenue collection.
- PF therefore intends to broaden the tax base and thus increase revenue by extending payment of tax to include both the formal and informal sectors within the tax net.
- This can be achieved by giving tax numbers to all tax payers and making it mandatory to give a tax number in order to receive services such as admission to institutions of learning, health treatment, and loans from banks.
- PF will also institute a system of encouraging Zambians resident and working abroad to remit part of their earnings to a Development Fund that will be established in all our embassies and high commissions abroad. As a reciprocal measure, all tax paying Zambians abroad will exercise their right to vote.

12.3 BUDGET

The PF government will:

- Introduce activity based budgeting starting from the local authority management boards to the central government level.
- Strengthen the office of Auditor-General by making it functionally independent from government interference.
- Ensure that the Auditor-General reports to Parliament.

13. COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY

The current emphasis on trade at the expense of industry has led to industrial stagnation and undermined industrial development. To rejuvenate and attract investment in industry, the PF government will put the following measures in place:

- Provide incentives to those who will want to venture into manufacturing and processing industries.
- Review investment legislation to accommodate both local and foreign investors.

- Encourage and provide further and comprehensive incentives to those who establish industries in rural areas.
- Protect Zambian traders from unfair trading practices.
- Give preference to Zambian nationals in the allocation of trading places in markets.
- Encourage foreign investors to partner with Zambians.
- Promote and enhance regional trade through SADC and COMESA
- Promote growth triangles with neighbouring countries.
- Establish Multi-Facility Processing Zones ((MFPZs) in all provinces, rather than selected or favoured districts, in order to ensure equitable economic development.

14. SOCIAL SECURITY

The current social security system leaves the majority of workers destitute upon retirement, because of unrealistic and inadequate retirement packages, which are often overtaken by inflation and the ever rising cost of living. This is compounded by the fact that pensioners and retirees are not paid their benefits on time, or never paid at all. Even more tragic is the situation of our senior citizens who may not have anyone to look after them in the evening of their lives. To correct this uncalled for situation the PF government will take the following measures:

- Compel employers to remit pension contributions to the relevant pension schemes.
- Compel employers including government and quasi-governmental institutions and pension scheme providers, to pay retirees and pensioners promptly, failure to which the retirees continue to be on the payroll and benefit from any subsequent changes in the conditions of service.
- Encourage employees to take up pension and health insurance schemes with providers of their own choice, where this is possible.
- Clear the outstanding backlog by increasing allocation to the Public Service Pension Fund (PSPF).
- Establish a state pension for all Zambians over the age of 65 years. This is inline with the UN Declaration of Human Rights which promises social security for all.

- Decentralize operations of the PSPF to provincial level.

15. DEFENCE AND SECURITY

Given the importance of national defence and security, the PF government shall ensure that national defence and security institutions are depoliticised, provided with adequate resources and managed in a professional manner.

The PF government shall also ensure that Zambia's territorial integrity is respected and preserved and involve the defence and security forces in civil public works where and when necessary.

Under the PF government retired personnel will not be reappointed to the defence services except in times of war.

16. AFFIRMATIVE ACTION

The PF government will ensure that all appointments to the civil and diplomatic services, as well as cabinet and any other strategic positions are based on merit but will always ensure that there is proportionate representation of all ethnic/racial, gender, religious, and age segments of our population. This is in recognition of the fact that in our country every major segment of our population has people of merit and distinction who deserve to be involved in the running of the affairs of the country.

16.1 GENDER POLICY

The PF government will put in place a number of measures aimed at promoting gender equality. To this end the PF government will:

- Transform the Gender Development Division (GIDD) into a Gender Commission headed by a professional.
- Initiate legislation for the Commission to have constitutional powers and representation in Cabinet.
- Give the Commission powers to monitor, investigate, research educate, lobby and recommend to government on issues concerning gender equity.
- Mainstream gender in all ministries and institutions.

- Appoint focal persons in all ministries who will be responsible for the coordination of gender issues.
- Promote equitable distribution of productive resources so as to empower both women and men.
- Continue promoting the concept of the girl - child in educational programmes.
- Implement fully the SADC Protocol which advocates for the appointment of 30% of women to decision making positions.

16.2 YOUTH POLICY

The PF recognizes that currently the youth in Zambia are facing numerous social problems such as unemployment, lack of skills, lack of sustainable livelihood and recreation, high levels of youth delinquency, alcohol abuse, large numbers of uncared for orphans and street kids, and insufficient numbers of educational institutions. The PF government will employ a practical approach to address the youth problems. To this end, the PF government will:

- Create Youth Development Programs to support Youth Organizations on a non – partisan basis.
- Put in place development and economic policies that will stimulate employment creation and provision of quality services in the health and education sectors including recreation.
- Establish a special fund to facilitate youth exchange programs at regional and international levels in order to expose the youth to the global markets.
- Establish a youth investment fund for developing the entrepreneurial skills and kick-starting business ventures and other related activities in order for the youth to be economically, politically and technically independent.
- Involve the youth in decision-making on matters that affect them and the nation as a whole by appointing them to key strategic positions in the public sector.
- Establish special training institutions for the disadvantaged youth such as the orphans and street kids.
- Ensure increased funding to educational institutions as way of empowering the youth with academic and professional skills.

16.3 POLICY ON THE DIFFERENTLY – CHALLENGED

The Patriotic Front recognizes that currently disability is a human right issue in Zambia and worldwide as persons differently challenged (disabled) suffer discrimination and marginalization in the national development process. Their human rights are violated and /or abused in the areas of formal employment, political decision-making and

entrepreneurship. In as much as PF supports the policy of inclusive education; it recognizes that this inclusiveness *cannot* work in an education system riddled with inappropriate infrastructure, lack of teaching/learning materials and ill-equipped teaching and training personnel. The present arrangement is not working in favour of persons differently challenged. To facilitate full enjoyment of their inalienable rights, PF government will:-

- Legislate that persons with disabilities enjoy equal employment opportunities, access to quality health, education, water and sanitation, including housing.
- Instil life skills and cultivate professional development for persons who are differently challenged (disabled) by increasing the number of training institutions for them and introducing courses such as sign – reading and Braille in most schools.
- Provide practical opportunities to persons differently challenged to ensure access to the means of production such as land, capital and labour.
- Enter into partnership with the Private Sector (PS) to provide micro-credit facilities to needy differently challenged persons.
- Open doors for full political expression and participation to all aspirants regardless of their physical states. That is, it will genuinely and transparently level the political arena/field.
- Take affirmative action by way of policy ensuring that they are represented on strategic positions, facilitate their active participation in decision-making bodies and ensure that all differently challenged children are given access to education.
- Ensure that the human rights of the disabled are upheld by the state and respected by all.
- Make it mandatory for all buildings to have special facilities for the convenience of the differently challenged.

17. THE MEDIA

The PF believes that a free and independent media is the cornerstone of any democracy. To this end, the PF government will:

- Ensure that the publicly owned print media is privatised.

- Effect the Independent Broadcasting Authority Act within ninety days of taking over power.
- Enact the Freedom of Information law within ninety days.
- Effect the ZNBC Act to ensure that ZNBC operates autonomously and professionally within ninety days.
- Ensure that ZNBC conforms to the SADC protocol on media coverage.
- Abolish taxes on the print and electronic media, including the TV licence, within ninety days of assuming power.

18. TOURISM AND WILD LIFE PROTECTION AREAS

The PF government will strive to reverse the decline in the wildlife estate which covers 33% of the total land in Zambia. Much of this has been abandoned by successive governments, and most of it can only be rehabilitated with massive investment within a policy of public private partnerships.

The PF government will encourage and facilitate local and foreign investment in tourism for the sector to contribute to sustainable economic well-being and enhanced quality of life for Zambians through government - led, private sector driven quality product developments that are consistent with the protection of the nation's unique natural and cultural heritage.

Apart from promoting Zambia's her abundant wild life, the Victoria Falls, and other natural wonders, the PF government will also initiate innovative ways of promoting tourism. To this end, the PF government will:

- Ensure that growth in resource based tourism is environmentally sustainable and accessible to future generations.
- Streamline regulation, bureaucracy and taxation for tourism enterprises in line with other industries.
- Involve and encourage partnerships and revenue sharing with local communities whose access to customary lands used for tourism activities has been compromised.
- Facilitate land use planning and stakeholder management structures to maximize investment opportunities with low human impacts.

- Encourage all Zambians to get involved in hospitality through private, community and village-based eco-tourism enterprises and recognize all tourism support industries such as crafts.
- Develop and implement a tourism training programme including local communities, ensuring that environment and natural resources are in the curricula.
- Actively participate in the development of regional initiatives in the development of trans-boundary conservation areas, with a view to maintaining the integrity of Zambia's ecosystems, biodiversity conservation, protected area network and economic and cultural development within the region.
- Clearly define the role of the Zambia Wildlife Authority as a small, but robust regulatory body and enter into decentralised management structures of Game Management Areas (GMA's) and National Parks in partnership with local ZAWA offices, NGO's, conservation groups, communities, traditional authorities and the private sector.
- Encourage sustainable utilization of wildlife and find ways of bringing the bush meat trade out into the open.
- Increase share of benefits to local communities and local authorities from the National Parks and Game Management Areas.
- Diversify tourism attractions by opening up the neglected regions and extending transport infrastructure and services to potential tourism sites other than the game parks.
- Create an attractive environment for investors, whether Zambian or foreign, characterized by a reasonable regime of low taxes, low interest rates and minimum risk of sudden policy changes and other forms of political risk.
- Create incentives to make local tourism attractive through the introduction of reduced prices for locals for accommodation and introduction of saving schemes holidays.
- Encourage the concept of conference – tourism (i.e., hosting of international meetings and events as a major marketing tool to attract tourists).
- Encourage the establishment of entertainment, sports, and leisure

centres along the lines of Disneyland and Sun City to attract international tourists.

19. ENVIRONMENT, FORESTRY AND NATURAL RESOURCES

The PF recognizes that development in all its forms should be governed by safeguards for the environment and for ensuring sustainable use of resources. . In this regard, the PF is committed to inviting communities, traditional authorities and local governments to participate fully in the responsibilities and opportunities to manage resource systems in a holistic approach, with development built around effective local institutions with the ability to enter into equitable business partnerships with industry. The PF has also noted that inadequate development programmes and poor income generation, particularly among rural citizens has put increased pressure on water, soil, wildlife, mineral, and forest resources. To this end, the PF government will:

- Support Zambia's draft National Policy on Environment, which seeks to reduce conflicts of interest, to harmonize sectoral strategies, to rationalize legislation that concerns the use and management of land, water and natural resources and to pursue an integrated holistic approach to development.
- Promote broad inter-sectoral dialogue to develop cross-cutting consensus.
- Promote decentralisation, community participation and privatization to underpin sustainable development.
- Promote indigenous traditional conservation strategies based on common sense, which have been overshadowed by much of the modern-day legislation based on centralization and loss of much of the local sense of ownership and responsibility.
- Introduce marketing and pricing policy reforms that provide industrial fuel wood users with incentives to invest in tree planting and woodland management.
- Improve the conservation and management of forestry reserves and prohibit encroachment into Protected Forest Areas, while encouraging Public Private Partnerships to manage watersheds and forest reserves on a sustainable basis.

- Review legislation relating to management of the environment and natural resources to ensure that it conforms to principles of sustainable development.
- Strengthen the Environmental Council of Zambia to put a stop to political interference in decision making aimed at environmental protection and sustainable management of resources.
- Establish a forest management commission to effectively manage the forestry resource in partnership with the local communities through the native authorities and encourage investor partnerships .
- Strengthen waste management and pollution control

19.1 WATER

The PF recognises the importance of water in all human activities. Apart from drinking and sanitation, water is critical in industry, mining, power generation, agriculture, the fishing industry, some local transport systems and for tourism as well.

Thus all citizens have a part to play in its conservation and sustainable management. The PF government will:

- Ensure that Zambians have access to clean, portable water in order to reduce the incidence of water- borne diseases and make water collection easier and safer.
- Introduce the training and empowerment of local communities to assist in the maintenance of water points and water sources.
- Ensure that Local Governments are adequately funded to rehabilitate and extend sewerage and drainage systems in order to contain environmental and water pollution.
- Ensure the immediate protection of wetlands and other ecologically sensitive sites.
- Commission feasibility studies of the potential dam sites on the numerous rivers of the country.
- Initiate studies of surface and groundwater to ensure its sustainable use and equitable access.

19.2 FISHERIES

The PF is committed to sustainable management of fish resources and conservation of aquatic biodiversity. The PF Government will therefore:

- Explore opportunities to expand existing and develop new fish resources.
- Improve access for all Zambians and local communities to wild fisheries to conduct fishing, fish processing and trading shall be guaranteed and safeguarded.
- Promote fish farming and thereby decrease pressure on our natural waterways.
- Give local communities adequate responsibility and control over the management of fish resources.

20. HEALTH POLICY

The current health care system is characterized by a critical shortage of personnel such as doctors, clinical officers, nurses and others. The few staff available are overworked, de-motivated and poorly remunerated. The unfavourable conditions of service have, over the years, accelerated the brain - drain of essential health personnel to other countries, thus leaving the country even more starved of essential health personnel.

The infrastructure lacks maintenance and there is a critical lack of basic equipment and medicines especially in the rural areas. In the area of HIV/AIDS, most rural areas remain isolated from health care and cannot access treatment including ARVs.

Patients are made to pay user fees without guarantee that they will be given adequate treatment. In most cases patients are requested to buy their own medicines, gloves, cotton wool, syringes, and other requisites from private pharmacies.

This severely deficient, inequitable, and inadequate health care delivery system has been unable to cope with the country's health demands especially in times of major epidemics such as cholera.

The upshot of these declining health standards has been the dramatic increase in the levels of mortality, particularly infant and maternal mortality.

Recognising this scenario, the PF government will:

- Increase the budgetary allocation from the current level to about 20% of GDP.
- Introduce competitive conditions of service comparable to the very best obtaining in the SADC region.
- Promote primary health care to prevent such epidemics as cholera and malaria.
- Introduce mandatory nutritional and public health education in schools.
- Provide essential equipment and medicines.
- Deploy all trained health personnel immediately after training.
- Establish a national medical scheme to ensure access to quality health care services for all.
- Provide free health care services for children under five, expectant mothers and senior citizens (i.e., above 65 years).
- Rehabilitate and expand the existing infrastructure and where necessary construct new ones, particularly in the rural and peri-urban areas.
- Equip all district and provincial hospitals with the necessary information communications technology (ICT) infrastructure in order to facilitate access to tele – medicine.
- Encourage the church and NGOs to complement the government's efforts in the health care provision.
- Increase the capacity in medical and diagnostic research especially in malaria, tuberculosis, and sexually transmitted infections.
- Promote the role of traditional medicine in health care delivery.

20.1 CONDITIONS OF STAFF OF MEDICAL PERSONNEL

To deal with the problem of the brain – drain of medical personnel, the PF government will put in place measures that will restore the dignity and pride of the medical profession. To this end, the PF government will:

- Ensure that the conditions of service are on par or better than those obtaining in the Southern African sub – region which is a major destination of our medical personnel, by providing a package of incentives that will include entitlements to mortgages, car loans, child allowances, etc.
- Award appropriate hardship allowances and other incentives for medical personnel deployed to rural areas.
- Provide opportunities for advanced and specialized medical training so that medical personnel are in tune with the latest developments in medical research and technology.

21. COMMUNICATION AND TRANSPORT

The current state of affairs in the area of transport and communications reveals serious inadequacies. Road and rail infrastructure is either inadequate or seriously run – down. Postal services have virtually collapsed and what remains is very inefficient. Water transport is non – existent whilst the country has no national airline.

Serious problems have also beset the print and electronic media. The PF government intends to redress these problems in a systematic way.

21.1 POSTAL SERVICES

The current postal system has not kept pace with technological advances especially in the rural areas. To reorganize the system, the PF will:

- Establish an enhanced postal system that operates as a mail and courier delivery network, as well as one – stop centres for the provision of business bureau services such as Internet and e-mail in all parts of the country. This will improve its competitiveness as well as viability.
- Encourage the private sector and local councils to take up the challenge of running postal services in line with the policy of decentralization.

21.2 INFORMATION COMMUNICATION TECHNOLOGY

In order to enhance communication, the PF government will work towards providing nation wide internet access through access to the information superhighway so that most Zambians have easy and faster access to news and information and to facilitate electronic commerce globally. To this end, the PF government will:

- Strengthen and reinforce the autonomy of the Telecommunications Authority.
- Liberalize the Information Communications Technology (ICT) sector by making it more competitive through the establishment of new international gateways and thereby reduce communication costs in internet connectivity, mobile and landline telephony.
- Encourage the development of a country - wide fibre optic network that will in turn be connected to the trans – oceanic network for enhanced connectivity to the rest of the world.
- Adopt a policy of nationwide utilization and application of ICT in the provision of services as a way of improving efficiency in service delivery.
- Partner with established multinationals in the private sector to achieve universal computer literacy in all schools.
- Create a conducive environment and incentives for high – tech manufacturers like INTEL, HP, and Microsoft to invest in Zambia and turn it into the high – tech hub of Southern Africa.

21.3 TRANSPORT

The PF recognizes the need to modernize the railway system which despite concessioning is still in a state of serious disrepair and the road network which needs revamping. To do this, the PF government will:

21.3.1 RAILWAY TRANSPORT

- Embark on a comprehensive programme to rehabilitate the railway tracks and improve the operations to make them more efficient.
- Construct railway links to neighbouring countries in partnership with the private sector.
- Introduce commuter trains in urban areas to help decongest traffic on the roads.
- Carry out feasibility studies for the construction of underground railway systems.
- Construct, in partnership with the private sector, electric rail-lines to replace the existing diesel propelled trains in view of Zambia's abundant electricity.

21.3.2 ROAD NETWORK

- Transform the Road Transport and Safety Agency into an autonomous institution.
- Construct ring roads around the major cities.
- Construct all weather roads from the Provincial Headquarters to all district headquarters and areas of agricultural production.
- Construct inter-provincial roads linking all the provinces.
- Construct flyover roads in major cities.
- Develop alternative business and commercial development zones in large cities to lessen traffic flows and congestion in the central business districts.

21.3.2.1 ROAD SAFETY MEASURES

- Re – introduce road safety education in schools.
- Introduce stringent quality assurance standards in all driving schools.
- Introduce stiffer penalties for road traffic offenders.
- Encrypt all drivers' permits to avoid forgeries.
- Construct cycle and pedestrian tracks and adequate road signs in urban and residential areas.

21.3.3 AIR TRANSPORT

- Construct, rehabilitate and upgrade government airstrips in all district centres.
- Up-grade and modernise all international airports;
- Establish a national airline in partnership with the private sector.

21.3.4 WATER TRANSPORT

Water transportation is the least developed of our transportation network.

Paradoxically, even in areas with extensive river and lake systems, this type of transportation hardly exists. The PF government intends to change this state of affairs in a significant way. The PF government therefore will:

- Promote water transport in areas with extensive river, lake and swamp systems.
- Rehabilitate existing water canals and pathways and construct new ones.
- Partner with the private sector in the procurement of water vessels.
- Put in place safety measures to minimise the incident of water transportation accidents.

22. INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS

Zambia as a member of the international community is party to several regional and international organizations such as SADC, COMESA, AU, Commonwealth, Non-aligned Movement, and the United Nations system, etc.

The PF will:

- Maintain membership of these organizations.
- Promote friendly and cordial relations with Zambia's neighbours, all African countries and other foreign countries.
- Pursue a foreign policy based on the mutuality of common interest and respect.
- Ratify, domesticate and implement all international conventions that Zambia has signed, especially in relation to human and peoples' rights, the rights of women and children and cultural exchanges.
- Develop professionalism in the recruitment of Foreign Service personnel by introducing a cadre of career diplomats.
- Support Zambian nationals wishing to pursue careers in international organizations.

23. LABOUR

For a long time, the condition of the worker has continued to deteriorate. The legislation pertaining to labour has lagged behind. As a result, the interests of the workers in many work places have not been protected. For example, most workers are casualised, underpaid, and work in unsafe workplaces.

To address these problems, the PF government will:

- Remove casualization of labour by amending the appropriate legislation to this effect.
- Make it mandatory for employers have health programs, including HIV/AIDS programs, in the work place.
- Put in place a minimum wage based on the cost of living.
- Promote good industrial and labour relations through regular tripartite consultations (i.e., between government, labour, and employers).
- Carry out a comprehensive review and amendment of current labour related legislation which is now outdated.
- Ratify, domesticate, and implement international labour standards that Zambia has signed.
- Increase the capacity of the Ministry of Labour to enable it effectively carry out its inspectorate function in line with the Factories Act and other related legislations.
- Use the abundant reservoir of skills of retired senior citizens as consultants.

24. SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

Since independence, Zambia has implemented various socio-economic and developmental strategies with a view to enable her to produce a wide range of goods and services based on imported turn-key technologies. This strategy has proven to be unsustainable because of lack corresponding of investment in the development of local Science and Technology (S & T) capabilities.

Some of the causes of this state of affairs include inadequate funding, dilapidated infrastructure, critical shortages of qualified technicians, scientists and engineers. In terms of quality, Science and Technology education in Zambia is currently faced with critical shortage of teaching staff due to the brain - drain, lack of essential inputs, and pre-requisite Science and Technology (S & T) educational support systems.

Indigenous knowledge has been neglected. Research at university and research stations has mimicked work done in Europe and North America. These interventions have failed to support and rejuvenate the Science and Technology (S & T) sector in Zambia because they have been unsustainable and have not led to improvement in of the living standards of the Zambian population. Comparatively, in the sub-region, Zambia lags behind in terms of patents and innovations.

The Patriotic Front will address these problems by integrating Science and Technology (S & T) in all national issues by enhancing productivity, competitiveness and finding solutions to priority national issues. The PF intends to establish a multi-sectoral S & T funding system that will support the development of S & T. To realize the foregoing goals the PF, taking into account crosscutting issues nature of S & T, will progressively:

- Identify and conduct priority research and development activities.
- Develop a critical mass of motivated scientists, engineers and technicians.
- Rehabilitate and sustain current infrastructure in all S & T institutions.
- Develop and sustain new infrastructures in all areas of need in S & T.
- Disseminate and commercialize research and development products.
- Promote the appreciation of Science and Technology as key building blocks for national development.
- Review and strengthen the policy, legal and institutional framework for Science and Technology.

By realizing the above objectives the PF intends to make the Zambian economy a Knowledge Economy (KE), which will reflect the increased importance of S & T knowledge as a critical factor for economic

performance. This will result in the creation of a Zambian knowledge-based economy where organizations and people efficiently acquire, create, disseminate and use knowledge for accelerated and broader economic and social development. The PF government intends, through its Science and Technology policies, to significantly improve the living standards of the Zambian people by creating:

- An economic and institutional regime that provides incentives for efficient creation, dissemination, and use of existing knowledge.
- An educated and skilled population that can create and use knowledge.
- An effective innovation system consisting of research centers, universities, think-tanks, and other organizations that cannot only tap into the growing stock of global knowledge, assimilate and adapt it to local needs, but also create knowledge, and;
- A dynamic information infrastructure that can facilitate effective dissemination and processing of information.

25. THE ARTS, SPORTS AND RECREATION

The PF appreciates the importance of sports for the healthy development of mind and body and the importance of music and art in expressing the feelings, aspirations of our people. Even more significantly, arts and sports play the role of unifying our people. For these reasons, the PF government intends to pursue a very progressive policy in the promotion of all sports, recreation, and the arts. To this end, the PF government will:

- Encourage private and public investments in the development of sports infrastructure in all towns and cities.
- Encourage the local manufacturing of sports equipment.
- Promote the teaching of art and music in schools.
- Encourage the establishment of a national symphony orchestra to make use of our rich traditional musical heritage.
- Establish an arts trust fund to support the development of all the creative arts like music, fine arts, and drama.
- Strengthen the existing anti – piracy laws.